

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As below named inventor, I hereby declare that

This declaration is of the following type:

- original design supplemental
 national stage of PCT
 divisional continuation continuation-in-part

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am (or, in the case of any of the undersigned being a legal representative of a deceased inventor, believe that the deceased is) the original, first, and sole inventor (*if only one name is listed below*) or an original, first, and joint inventor (*if plural names are listed below*) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

JOINING ELEMENT

the specification of which:

- is attached hereto.
 was filed on _____ as Serial No. _____ and was amended on _____
(if applicable).
 was filed by Express Mail No. _____ as Serial No. *not known yet*, and was amended on _____
(if applicable).
 was filed on 23 October 2003 as PCT International Application No. PCT/EP03/11744
and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _____ *(if any)*.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claim(s), as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

COUNTRY	APPLICATION	DATE OF FILING (day,month,year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119		
			YES		NO
			YES		NO

I hereby claim the benefit pursuant to Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of the following United States provisional application(s):

PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS CLAIMING THE BENEFIT UNDER 35 USC 119(e)	
APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 USC 120				
U.S. APPLICATIONS		Status (<i>check one</i>)		
U.S. APPLICATIONS	U.S. FILING DATE	PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
1. 0 /				
2. 0 /				
3. 0 /				
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.		Status (<i>check one</i>)		
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NOS. ASSIGNED (if any)	PATENTED	PENDING
4. PCT/EP03/11744	23 Oct. 2003			X
5.				
6.				

DETAILS OF FOREIGN APPLICATIONS FROM WHICH PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119 FOR ABOVE LISTED U.S./PCT APPLICATIONS				
ABOVE APPLN. NO.	COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (day,month,yr)	DATE OF ISSUE (day,month,yr)
1. PCT/EP03/11744	Germany	102 50 421.0	30 Oct. 2002	
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Robert A. Dunn	30,556	John M. Naber	46,487
Richard A. Jones	39,242	Craig A. Phillips	47,858
Jean C. Edwards	41,728	Michael A. Schaldenbrand	47,923
Lisa E. Marks	44,091	James P. Calve	50,185

I further direct that correspondence concerning this application be directed to DICKINSON WRIGHT PLLC
1901 L St., N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20036, Telephone (202) 457-0160.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: Erminio Moretti

Inventor's signature: _____

Date _____ Country of Citizenship: France

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Full name of sole or first inventor: Florent Charras

Inventor's signature: _____

Date _____ Country of Citizenship: France

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